NIGHT OF THE BEASTS
3
CHIKA SHIOMI

NIGHT OF THE BEASTS 3

NIGHT OF THE BEASTS

3

CONTENTS

CHAPTER 10..... 7
CHAPTER 11..... 51
CHAPTER 12.....89
CHAPTER 13..... 129
CHAPTER 14..... 168

NIGHT OF THE BEASTS

CHAPTER 10

STORY

Aria's peaceful school life has been interrupted by the handsome and brooding young Sakura, who is possessed by a ferocious demon. Though the beast within him was killed by humans 400 years ago, its bitterness lives on. Storing up its powers, it has waited to build up the strength needed to exact its revenge – by killing off 4,000 descendents of the first human who killed it. Aria, Sakura and one of the men pursuing them are among those descendents.

Betrayed by Sakura's cousin Shiro, Aria was captured by the evil Taki who used her as bait to lure Sakura to his death. Sakura appeared, but after being ambushed and fired upon, Sakura changed into the ferocious demon and killed Shiro. Just as everyone was feeling there was no hope, an invisible force attacked Sakura and saved Aria and company!

That "something" was the white demon inside of Aria, which – along with the human – killed the black demon 400 years ago. Meanwhile, Sakura, who's had his soul taken from him, has quietly begun his revenge...

ARIA-
SAN!

HEH HEH HEH!
HA HA HA HA!
YOU REALLY CAME DOWN HERE, EH!?
YOU FOOL!
WHERE DID YOU PICK THAT UP?
WHAT IS THAT THING!?
AAARGH!
AAARRRGH!
SIZ THER
WAAH!
WAWAAH!

GRAB
AHH!
BOOM
WHOA!

GRAB
WAAH!
WAAAH!
KA
KA
SHUDDER
!
SLIP
.....!
I'M SLIP-PING!
STOP! STOP IT!
NO! NO!
AAAH!
I CAN'T HOLD ON!

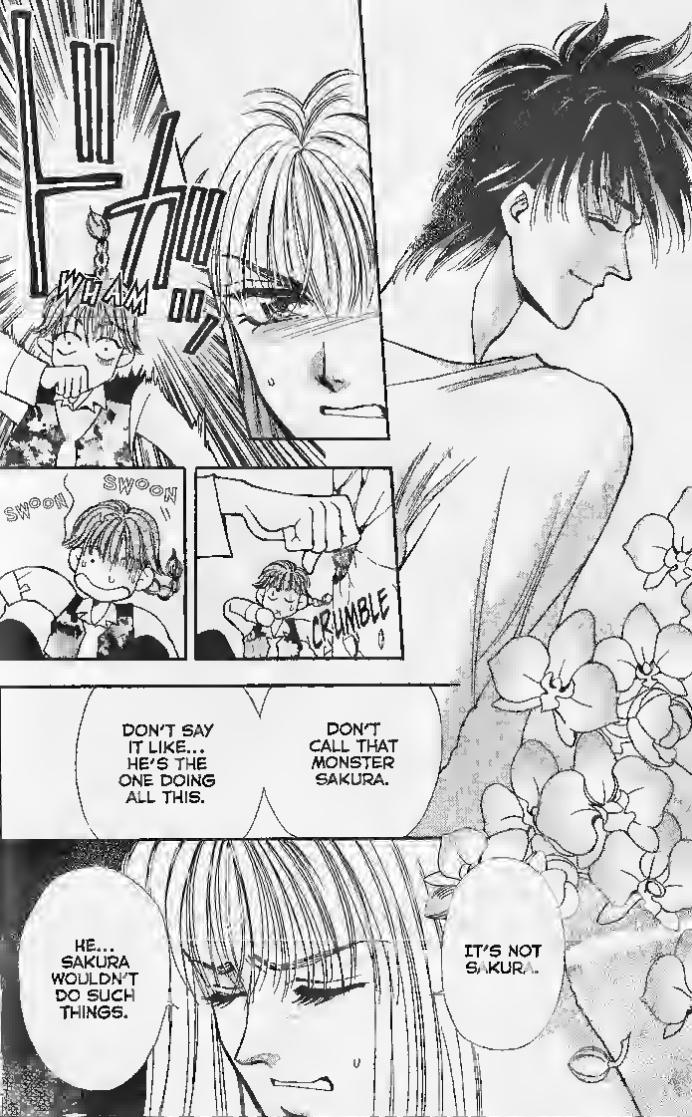
NO! NO! NO! NO!
NOOOO!!
GASP
AH...
?
AAAH... GUH...
COLLAPSE
UH...
SHUDDER
SHUDDER

HE GAVE UP?
BUT JUST WHAT DID...
...HE DO TO THAT MON--STER?
WAS IT REALLY THIS KID HER@?
HIC
SOB
I SAID I WOULDN'T GET INVOLVED IN THIS AGAIN.
WHAT AM I THINK-ING?
!
TH...
THAT MAN...
ARIA-SAN, LIS-TEN TO ME!
THAT MAN, HE...

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU NOT TO FOLLOW ME!
IF YOU DON'T STOP, I'LL THROW YOU BACK TO THAT GUY!
AND I WON'T SAVE YOU AGAIN, EITHER.
WERE YOU REALLY ... GONNA LEAVE ME, BEFORE?
WH... WHY!? YOU'RE SO STRONG, ARIA!
TOWAKO-SAN SAID SO. YOUR DEMON IS STRONG!
STRONG ENOUGH TO BEAT SAKURA!
YOU CAN BEAT HIM UP, RIGHT?
PUSH.
WAH!
MAYBE, BUT I HAVE NO INTENTION OF DOING THAT.
PROTECT YOURSELVES BY YOURSELVES.

CHOMP
TRYING!
TRYING!
T... TAKE ON SAKURA?
IF IT'S IMPOSSIBLE, YOU SHOULD JUST GIVE UP, RIGHT?
OW!
TMP
TMP
TMP
HI TURN
YOU'RE A DEVIL, ARIA-SAN! AN OGRE!
A HEARTLESS OLD HAG!
YOU'RE MEAN! YOU STUPID STUPID STUPID!
I HAVE THE RIGHT TO SAY THAT!
THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE ARE BEING KILLED BECAUSE YOU'RE LIKE THIS!

PEOPLE WHO HID IN THEIR HOMES, PEOPLE WHO RAN AWAY BY AIRPLANE...
THEY'RE DISAPPEARING!
TENS OF PEOPLE ARE ALREADY DEAD!!
WHEN PEOPLE LOOKED FOR THEM, ALL THEY FOUND WAS BLOOD!
BLOOD SPLASHED EVERYWHERE LIKE A SLAUGHTERHOUSE!!
SAKURA KILLED ALL OF THEM!!


WHAM
SWOON
SWOON
CRUMBLE
DON'T SAY IT LIKE... HE'S THE ONE DOING ALL THIS.
DON'T CALL THAT MONSTER SAKURA.
HE... SAKURA WOULDN'T DO SUCH THINGS.
IT'S NOT SAKURA.

THEN WHY DID YOU SAY THIS DOESN'T CONCERN YOU?
BE-CAUSE THIS DOESN'T CON-CERN ME.
WHEN SAKURA WAS STILL NORMAL...
...WAS HE YOUR FRIEND, ARIA-SAN?
BUT--
IT DOESN'T CONCERN ME.
NOT ANY MORE.
EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT, ARIA-SAN, THEY'LL STILL COME FOR YOU.
THAT MAN HAD SOMETHING OONE TO HIM BY SAKURA.
AND SAKURA WILL LOOK FOR YOU, ARIA-SAN... FOR THAT DEMON INSIDE OF YOU.

AS SHE IS NOW, WE MUSTN'T LET HER...
QUICKLY!
BRING HER QUICKLY.
TOHRU.
TOHRU...
TO KILL YOU.
'WITH THAT FEROCIOUS DEMON...
...COME IN CONTACT WITH SAKURA!
...WHICH HAS TAKEN SAKURA'S FORM!
...WAS ATTACKED BY SAKURA.
THAT MAN'S FAMILY...

HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?
COUNTLESS WERE KILLED, AND THE HOUSE LEFT IN A SEA OF BLOOD.
I WAS TOLD.
ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT MAN. WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM ALL.
THAT WAS WHERE SAKURA DID SOMETHING TO THAT MAN.
BY MY FRIEND.
GRAB
KYAH!
.....?

HE FOLLOWED US!
WAAH!
BOOM
THAT MAN HAD SOME THING DONE TO HIM...
...BY SAKURA
HOW COME YOU CAN MOVE ALREADY?
JUST EARLIER I --
I'M SURE I.../
FOOL!
DID YOU REALLY THINK I COULD BE BOUND BY A "THING" LIKE THIS!?
HE MEANS BY THAT MONSTER!
AAAAH!
AAAAH!
GRUMBLE GRUMBLE

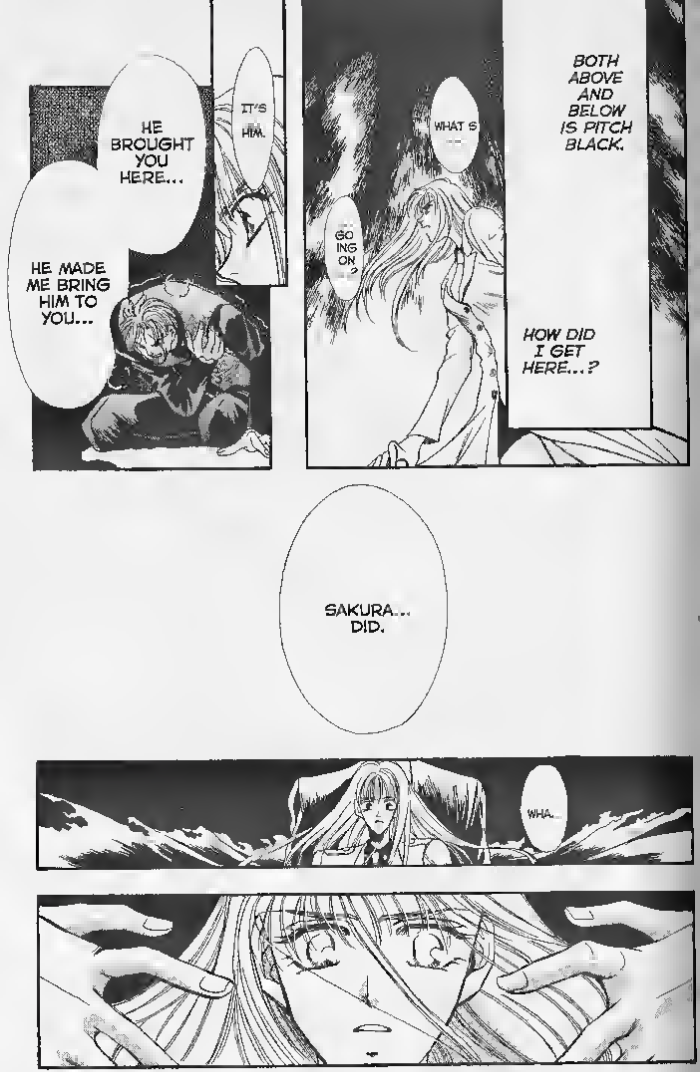
ZOOOM
GET OUT OF ME!!
EXPEL
I'M SORRY, ARE YOU OKAY!?
VWIP
ARIA-SAN, BEHIND YOU!
JUST NOW, SOME-THING...
WHAT THE?
...WENT INSIDE OF HIM.
!

GO! GO! BEAT HIM UP!
YOU STUPID DOG!
YAHOO! IT CAME OUT! AWE-SOME!
DON'T COME OUT JUST BECAUSE YOU FEEL LIKE IT!
YOU THINK I NEED SAVING!?
ARGGGGG
FLASH

WH...
WHY'D YOU STOP IT!?
SHUT UP, AL READY!
I DON'T KNOW, OKAY? YOU WANT ME TO CALL A DOCTOR FOR HIM!?
WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT HIM!?
BUT WHAT ABOUT HIM!?
HUH?
I HAVE FOUND IT!!

I'VE FOUND IT, WHITE DEMON!
YOUR MASTER!
I'VE FOUND IT!
SO HE'S COME?
ARIA-SAN!
WHAT WAS THAT STRANGE VOICE JUST N—
WHIP

THOOM
WH...
WH T'S GOING ON?


BOTH ABOVE AND BELOW IS PITCH BLACK.
WHAT'S GOING ON...?
HOW DID I GET HERE...?
IT'S HIM.
HE BROUGHT YOU HERE...
HE MADE ME BRING HIM TO YOU...
SAKURA... DID.
WHA...

AH...
SO YOU'RE INSIDE THIS HUMAN, EH?
I FOUND YOU.

YOU ANNOYING WHITE DEMON...
"KUGIRI."
SAKURA...
SHE'S ...!?
SH.
I don't know for sure but...
ARIA-SAN!
WAAAAH!!
PANIC
PANIC
SHE'S DEEEEAD!
ARIA-SAN!?

YOU REALLY DID IT FOR ME BEFORE, DIDN'T YOU?
THANKS TO YOU, I'VE GOT SOME VERY BAD INJURIES.
YOU SURPRISED ME, AS USUAL..
TO THINK THAT YOU, WHO DESTROYED ME 400 YEARS AGO WITH THAT HUMAN...
...WOULD PURSUE ME AND FIND ME HERE AND NOW.
DESTROYED SAKURA?
THAT THING WAS INSIDE THE GIRL ALL THIS TIME?
AND THROUGH IT, WAS ABLE TO SO EASILY SUPPRESS SAKURA UNTIL NOW...!
THEN, JUST AS I THOUGHT ...
..IF SHE POSSESSES THAT POWER ...!

WHAT'S WRONG, KUDORI?
ANSWER ME.
-- SAKURA, BUT...
HE'S NOT--
THAT YOU PROTECT HER BLOOD-LINE...?
DID SHE COMMAND IT THAT YOU DESTROY ME AGAIN?
THADUMP
THIS GUY IS NOT SAKURA
THIS GUY...
NO, THIS IS WRONG
THADUMP
THADUMP
THADUMP
IT'S SAKURA'S VOICE...
SAKURA'S HANDS...
SAKURA'S...
...FACE.
YOU CAN HEAR ME, RIGHT?

DON'T YOU KNOW ME!?
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT!
SLAP
SAKURA!
THAT...
WHA--
GIRL!

I KNOW THAT THIS TIME...
IF HE COMES BACK FOR EVEN A SECOND!
IF THERE'S ONE FRAGMENT OF SAKURA LEFT!!
THIS TIME I...
SAKURA!
WAKE UP...!!
YOU'RE IN THE WAY, HUMAN!
SAKURA !!

SEETHE
I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN HOW YOU HUMILIATED ME THAT DAY!
SO LET ME HAVE FUN KILLING YOU!
AH ...!
COME OUT, KUGURI!!!
WHAM
OR ARE YOU TOO AFRAID TO COME OUT!?
IN THAT CASE ...
SAKURA...
I'LL PULL YOU OUT!!
SAKURA !!!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING !?
BRING OUT THAT DEMON OF YOURS, NOW!
YOU ...
HURRY!
ZIP
BAM
BAM
BAM
... FOOL ... YOU.
YOU ...

HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO FUSS OVER HIM!?
OVER ONE MEASLY HUMAN ...!
IF YOU DIE, WHO'LL PROTECT THE FAMILY !?
HOW FAR... WILL YOU...
WHA ...
...WHO NO LONGER EXISTS!
ONE HUMAN...
...IS ALREADY GONE!
ONE HUMAN WHO...

GIVE IT UP.
NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU CALL FOR HIM, HE WON'T ANSWER.
SAKURA.
...IT'S NO LONGER...
BUT...
IF YOU WANT TO SEE HIM SO BADLY...
...I SUPPOSE I CAN LET YOU.
...RA...
SAKU...
HOW FUSSY YOU HUMANS ARE.
GRIT
...BUT...
IT'S S_KUR_'S VOICE AND SAKURA'S F_CE...

I HAVE TAKEN HIM OVER.
HE WILL NEVER AWAKEN.
NEITHER VOICES NOR LIGHT...
...WILL EVER REACH...
...THIS HUMAN AGAIN.
NOW...
WHAT IN THE...
RISE

SO BE QUIET, NOW.
I'M TALKING TO KUGURI.
FADE!!
COME OUT, KUGURI!!!

...CAN'T HAVE JUST...
...VANISHED!
SA-KURA...
IF...
THAT WAS FUN, SO GO AHEAD!
ONLY THIS TIME, I'LL BRING YOU DOWN!
ARE YOU GOING TO TRY SURPRISE ATTACK LIKE LAST TIME!?
IF HE'S STILL...
...REMAINING, EVEN JUST A FRAGMENT...
IF HE'S STILL THERE...

WH...
WHAT?
STRONGER THAN 400 YEARS AGO...
FASTER THAN JUST BEFORE...
WHAT DID...
...SHE JUST DO!?
...THE WAY SHE MOVES!
QUIT COMPLAINING AND HAND HIM OVER.
BOOM

GIVE ME SAKURA !!
RRRIP
WHY YOU ...
NO WAY THAT...
KUROMA MOVING
NO THAT THIS HUMAN
IS MOVING HERE!
YOU LITTLE ...!!

THIS POWER!
THIS IS HER...
...POWER!!
THIS IS...
YOU BITCH!
KUGURI!
NO, I MEAN...
...HUMAN!!

I WON'T FORGET THIS!!
WA!...!
WHAT RUNS WITHIN YOU IS THAT HUMAN'S BLOOD! BUT...
HEH HEH HEH
IT SEEMS I TOOK YOUR HOST TOO LIGHTLY!
I'LL EAT YOU BEFORE ANYONE ELSE!
WITHOUT FAIL!
THOOM
WITHOUT FAIL!!

HUFF
HUFF
Y-Y-Y-Y-YOU CAME BACK TO LIFE!
ARIA-SAN!?
ARIA-SAN!!
...I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!
WHEN YOU COL-LAPSED LIKE THAT...

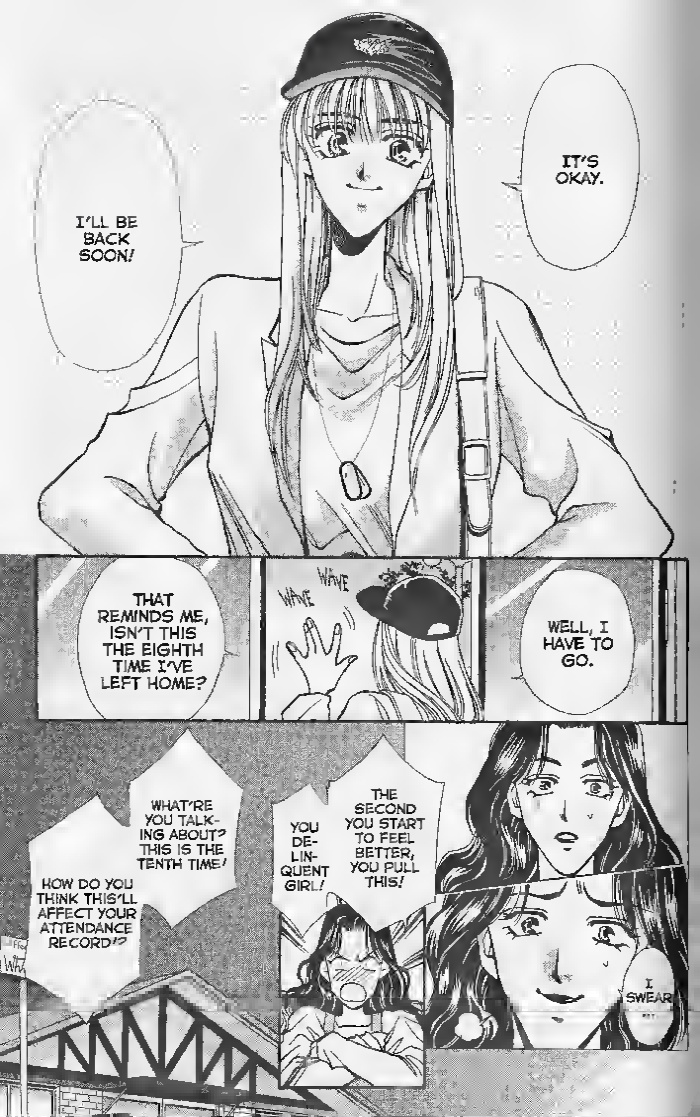
HE WILL NEVER AWAKEN.
NEITHER VOICES NOR LIGHT WILL EVER REACH THIS HUMAN AGAIN.
I COULD NOT CARE LESS ABOUT THAT.
SAKURA'S STILL THERE.
ARIA-SAN!
HE'S STILL...
HUH. WHAT AM I SO WORRIED ABOUT ANYWAY?
SOME-ONE WHO ONLY TOOK ACTION BECAUSE OF SA-KURA.
SOME-ONE WHO ...
...WAS ABOUT TO LET YOU GUYS DIE WITHOUT HELPING.
I BET YOU'VE NEVER SEEN....
...A GIRL AS PATHETIC AS ME, EH?
SHIRO SAKURA'S STILL ALIVE.
HE'S STILL...
ARIA-SAN?

NIGHT OF THE BEASTS
CHAPTER 11

SAKURA'S...
...STILL ALIVE.

I BELIEVED HE WAS GONE.
I GAVE UP ALL HOPE SO FAST!
I WAS CONVINCED I COULDN'T KEEP MY PROMISE.
SA-KURA'S STILL ALIVE.
SO, NEXT TIME...
WITHOUT SEEING IT WITH MY OWN EYES!
FOR CERTAIN, NEXT TIME...!
WITHOUT FEELING IT WITH MY OWN HANDS!
YOU'RE LEAVING ...?

AND NOW YOU'RE LEAVING!?
YOU LEFT HOME FOR A MONTH WITHOUT A WORD...
WHAT ARE YOU THINK-ING!?
BACK, YOU STILL HAVEN'T SAID ANY-THING!
SOONER OR LATER, I'LL COME BACK.
THERE'S SOME-THING I HAVE TO DO.
I'LL TRY MY BEST TO CALL YOU.
ARIA!
WAIT —!
!


I'LL BE BACK SOON!
IT'S OKAY.
THAT REMINDS ME, ISN'T THIS THE EIGHTH TIME I'VE LEFT HOME?
WAVE
WAVE
WELL, I HAVE TO GO.
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THIS IS THE TENTH TIME!
HOW DO YOU THINK THIS'LL AFFECT YOUR ATTENDANCE RECORD!?
YOU DELINQUENT GIRL!
THE SECOND YOU START TO FEEL BETTER, YOU PULL THIS!
I SWEAR...

SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WAIT, TOHRU.
ARIA-SAN, YOU SEEM DIFFER-ENT FROM BEFORE.
Am I is that because of the clothes
YOU FEEL LIKE A DIFFERENT PERSON.
LOOM
WAAH! I'M SORRY!
I DIDN'T MEAN ANY-THING!!
WHAT'S WITH THE WEIRD LOOK?
.....

I'M SORRY. FOR LOTS OF THINGS I'VE DONE TO YOU UP TO NOW.
BRING ME TO THIS TOWAKO PERSON.
THERE'S SOMETHING I NEED TO ASK HER.
THERE'S STILL PLENTY THAT I NEED TO KNOW...
K-CLICK
Shut up
Aria san you're a good person after all
TURN
Oh my
HUH?
OH, SO YOU'RE ...
...STILL ALIVE?

I THOUGHT YOU WERE STONE DEAD.
THOUGH I CALLED THE AMBULANCE JUST IN CASE.
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?
I WON'T LET YOU DO AS YOU LIKE ANYMORE.
HUFF
NO MATTER WHAT, YOU HAVE TO KILL SAKURA!
HUFF
THAT'S SOME SPIRIT YOU'VE GOT FOR YOURSELF.
WHY ARE YOU SO DESPERATE TO GO SO FAR FOR TOTAL STRANGERS?
DESPERATE TO GET SO WRECKED OVER...EH?

IF IT MEANS SAVING 4,000 PEOPLE'S LIVES THEN...
...I WILL KILL WHOEVER THAT ONE PERSON IS!
EVEN MY PARENT OR MY BROTHER!
THIS IS WHAT'S RIGHT!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT MY LIFE.
SHAKE
SHAKE
JUST LIKE SAKURA'S ONE LIFE...
...IT'S A SMALL SACRIFICE COMPARED TO 4,000 PEOPLE!
AT FIRST IT WAS MY FATHER'S ORDER.
BUT NOW IT'S SOMETHING I MUST DO.

EVEN THOUGH OUR ENEMY IS THE SAME...
WOOOO
...WE SEE THINGS VERY DIFFERENTLY.
I CAN'T FIGHT FOR THAT REASON... BECAUSE FOR ME...
...ONLY ONE PERSON MATTERS,
EVEN THOUGH THAT MONSTER'S NOTHING TO FEAR.
BUT, HE'S WILLING TO THROW AWAY HIS LIFE FOR THOSE 4,000 PEOPLE...
IF I SEE ANY HINT THAT YOU'RE USING THAT DEMON...
...I'LL SHOOT.
HE...
HE'S FIGHTING FOR WHAT HE BELIEVES IS RIGHT, TOO...
AROOOO

YOU ...!
BLAM
WHOOSH
YOU SHOULD KNOW YOU CAN'T STOP ME WITH SUCH A THING.
TAKI KAIDO-SAN.

TAKI KAIDO. AGE 28. NEXT IN COMMAND FOR THE KAIDO GROUP.
HOW THE BIG FINANCIAL CLIQUE'S MANSION ENDED UP A SEA OF BLOOD...
YOU WERE ALL OVER THE NEWS-PAPER.
...AND ALL THE INHABIT-ANTS GONE MISSING...
WAIT! YOU LITTLE ...!
WHAT IF, BEFORE YOU WORRIED ABOUT THOSE 4,000 PEOPLE...
...YOU SAVED HER, HMM?
ONLY YOUR WIFE WAS SAVED.

I CAN'T STOP IT AGAIN.
TURNING MY BACK ON REALITY; CURLING UP TO CRY...
WHP
I'LL NEVER DO THAT AGAIN!
LIVING LIKE THAT...
SAYING SHE'D CHOOSE ONE LIFE OVER 4,000.
SHE'S A FOOLISH GIRL.
THAT GIRL WOULD SAY SOME-THING LIKE THAT.

IF SOMEONE IS NOT WILLING TO GO ALL OUT FOR ONE PERSON...
BUT...
...THE TRUTH IS THEY COULD NOT SAVE 4,000.
YOU CAN CLAIM THAT SOMEONE WHO WON'T SAVE ONE WILL SAVE MANY...
...I DON'T BELIEVE IT.
WHY DO I...
...REMEMBER THAT NOW OF ALL TIMES?

BUT I REALLY AM GLAD YOU'RE SAFE.
WHEN I SAW YOU SWALLOWED UP BY THE BLACK DEMON'S MAGIC...
...I THOUGHT IT WAS THE END OF YOU.
THIS PERSON...
AND TO THINK THAT ALL OF IT...
...WAS SEEN THROUGH THIS LITTLE KID'S EYES.
IT HAD TO BE DIFFICULT FIGHTING A DEMON WHO HAD SAKURA'S FORM.
BUT YOU FOUGHT HIM WELL.
...IS THE ONE WHO SHOWED ME TO SAKURA
WHA...
... SAKURA IS SOME-WHERE ELSE.
BUT I KNOW ...
I wasn't at my best
So she's a mom, eh?

SHE MEANS... SAKURA IS STILL ALIVE?
I DON'T KNOW WHY...
...AND I DON'T CARE...
ALL I WANT TO KNOW IS...
...WHERE THAT MONSTER WHO'S TAKEN SAKURA'S BODY IS.
WHAT ATTACKED ME BACK THEN WASN'T REAL.
IT APPEARED AND THEN DISAP-PEARED LIKE AN ILLUSION.

HE SAID HE'S GOING TO KILL ME...
...SO HE'LL BE COMING FOR ME, SOON.
IT'S NOT MY NATURE TO WAIT.
I'M GOING TO GET BACK SAKURA AND HIS BODY.
GET BACK?
AND JUST HOW DO YOU-
I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL, BUT YOU MUSTN'T RUSH INTO THIS.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO FIND HIM.
I HADN'T THOUGHT THAT FAR AHEAD...
...BY FORCE.
CLATTER

THEN, I'M FINISHED HERE.
I'LL FIND HIM MYSELF.
W-WAIT! TOWAKO-SAMA SAID NOT TO RUSH INTO THIS!
CHILL
THANKS FOR THE TEA.
CAN'T YOU STOP HER?
WHY'RE YOU SHYING AWAY?
STOP, YOUNG LADY!
YOOH
WHOOSH
HYAAAA!

WH... WHA- WHA- WHA...
YOU THREW... THAT TABLE?
I FORGOT TO TELL YOU, BUT... WHEN TOWAKO-SAN GETS MAD SHE GETS REALLY SCARY.
YOU SHOULD'VE WARNED ME!!
GRRRR
You have to be careful, hm?
SHHHHH
HMPH
BY THE WAY ...
SMILE
SMILE
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED 400 YEARS AGO?
I HEARD ABOUT IT FROM SHIRO.
MOST-LY.
...what's with this sudden change?

THE NAME OF THE BLACK DEMON WITHIN SAKURA IS...
...KAGARA.
I knew that much
AND ...
ITS NAME IS KUGURI.
BUT, I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE THING INSIDE OF ME...
What do you suppose we do with this?
SHE KNOWS THE TRUTH OF THIS. I KNEW IT.
AMONGST THE BLOOD RELATIVES, THAT IS WHAT HAS BEEN CARRIED DOWN.
THE NAME OF KUGURI'S MASTER AND THE ONE WHO STARTED OUR BLOOD LINE IS...
... MIKAGE.

TO BEGIN WITH, OEMONS ...
... ARE THE CHANGED ESSENCE OF ANIMALS WHO HAVE LIVED TOO LONG.
400 YEARS AGO KAGARA ...
...WAS ONE SUCH CREATURE.
NO ONE KNOWS WHAT ANIMAL HE WAS BEFORE THE CHANGE.
ONLY THAT HIS HATRED OF HUMANS MADE HIM INTO A MONSTER.
IT IS SAID THAT HE LIVED TO BE 200 YEARS OLD.
SINCE OLD TIMES, THEY'VE BEEN CALLED GOBLINS AND SPECTERS.
THEY'VE EXISTED FOR COUNTLESS CENTURIES.
HUNDREDS OF HUMANS SOUGHT TO SLAUGHTER HIM AND WERE KILLED.
NOT ONE HUNTER OR WARRIOR WHO WENT AFTER HIM EVER RETURNED.

MIKAGE'S POWERFUL SORCERY AND THE DEMON KUGURI...
...AFTER A LONG BATTLE...?
THEN A HUMAN ACCOMPANIED BY A WHITE HOUND APPEARED.
THEY WERE KUGURI AND MIKAGE.
...VANQUISHED KAGARA.

BUT THE SOUL OF HIS ATROCITY STILL THIRSTED FOR BLOOD.
IT LEFT HIS FELLED BODY AND LATCHED ONTO MIKAGE.
MIKAGE WAS LEFT WITH CHILD AND THREE DAYS LATER GAVE BIRTH.
AND DIED.
WITH-OUT A FATHER ...
...THE CURSED CHILD BORN FROM KAGARA...
...GAVE RISE TO OUR BLOOD LINE.
WAIT, YOU MEAN MIKAGE WAS...
NOD

MIKAGE WAS A BEAUTIFUL...
...WOMAN.
TMP
ALTHOUGH I AM STILL INJURED...
...I CAN MOVE.

HEH HEH HEH
...THAT REALLY MUST BE YOUR BLOODLINE, EH... MIKAGE?
BUT TO INFLICT DAMAGE ON ME...
IN GRATITUDE FOR THIS INJURY, I'M GOING TO MAKE KUGURI AND THAT HUMAN MY FIRST VICTIMS.
...AND...
FROM WHERE THAT HUMAN IS NOW...
JUST HOW FAR YOU'RE TRYING TO KEEP ME FROM IT.
I UNDERSTAND WELL NOW.
THIS HUMAN BODY.
SUCH A BRITTLE THING.

THERE.
...THAT WHICH IS MUCH CLOSER TO THAT HUMAN...
VWIP
THOOM
SO YOU'RE "SAKURA"?

I SAW YOU IN A DREAM
AREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO'LL KILL ME AND EVERYONE TIED TO ME BY BLOOD?
DO YOU KNOW...
...HOW HAPPY THAT DREAM MADE ME?
WHISP

FLAP
YOU...
...CAME ALL THE WAY HERE ...
...BY YOUR MASTER'S WISHES, EH?
WHINE
I DON'T UNDERSTAND "WHINE." TRY AGAIN?
HUH?
SHOCK
TRMBL
TRMBL
Oh, maaan

ALL RIGHT! I'M SORRY!
FOR TELLING YOU TO GET LOST AND THAT YOU'RE IN THE WAY AND ASKING WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG!!
MY BAD! I'M SOR-RY!
LICK
STOP IT! COME ON! THAT TICK-LES!!
LICK LICK LICK
KUGURI AND KAGARA ARE ALIKE IN THAT THEY ARE BODI-LESS DEMON SPIRITS.
MIKAGE ORDERED KUGURI TO PURSUE KAGARA.
NOW, 400 YEARS LATER, KAGARA REAWAKENED WITHIN SAKURA...
SO KUGURI, SENSING HIS AWAKENING, REVIVED HER-SELF WITHIN YOU.

IT'S BETTER THAN INVOLVING A WHOLE TOWN OF INNOCENTS.
Make it up in?
YOU'LL GET MIXED UP IN THIS AND EATEN, YOU KNOW.
AND IF KAGARA COMES AFTER ME?
THIS TEMPLE'S NOT MUCH, BUT YOU ARE WELCOME HERE FOR AS LONG AS IT TAKES.
TAKE YOUR TIME TO FIND A WAY FOR YOU AND KUGURI TO FIND SAKURA.
SHE TALKED ME INTO IT.
ANYWAY, IF KUGURI AND YOU WEREN'T HERE, THE BLOOD RELATIVES WOULD STILL BE DESTROYED.
THERE ARE ONLY BLOOD RELATIVES HERE.
RELATIVES I'VE NEVER SEEN OR KNOWN BEFORE...
I HAVE THE FEELING I'VE BEEN DRAGGED INTO SOMETHING
I don't have any place else to go.
I THOUGHT I REALLY DIDN'T HAVE ANY.
BUT...
...I HAVE TO PROTECT THESE PEOPLE.

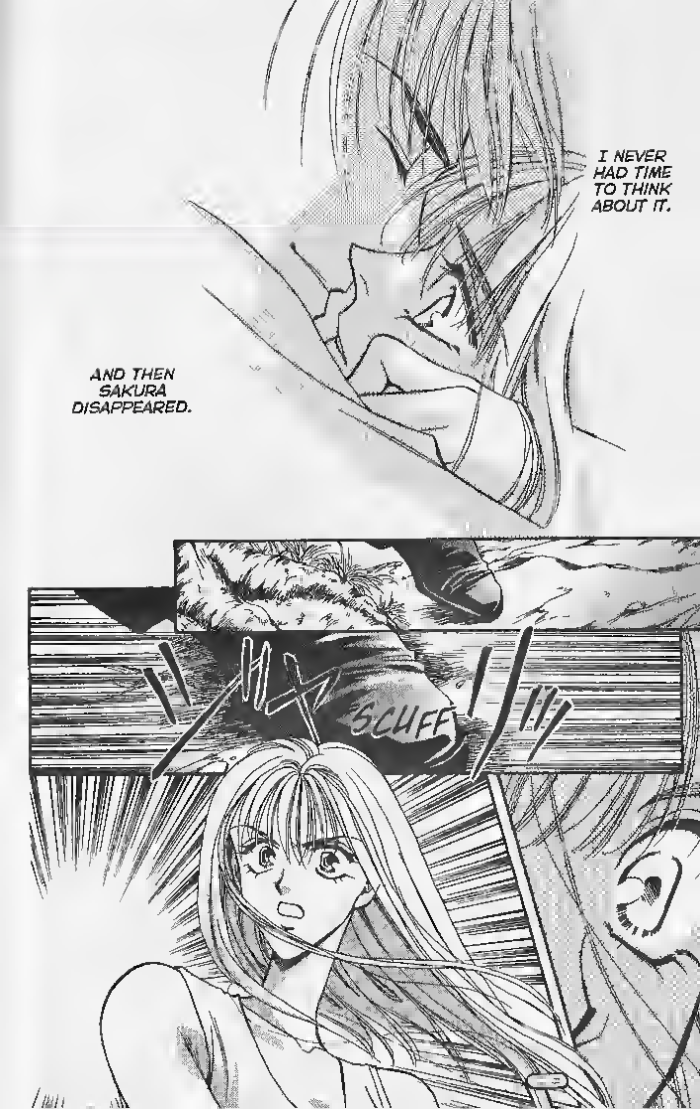
AL-
THOUGH
IN THE
FUTURE
I SAW...
...THAT
WE ALL
DIE...
SAKURA,
WHO WAS
SUPPOSED
TO VANISH,
HASN'T
VANISHED.
FATE IS
TRYING
BOTH A
LITTLE AT
A TIME...
...AND
ALSO QUITE
LARGELY, TO
CHANGE.
IS THIS
YOUR
DOING?
KUGURI,
WHO WAS
SUPPOSED TO
AWAKEN, HAS
AWAKENED.
BACK
THEN
YOU SAID
FATE CAN
CHANGE.
SO, IS
THIS
YOU?
SAKURA?

BZZZZZ
BZZZZZ
...DAMN OLD HAG!
THAT...
...TEMPLE !!
UGH/ HOW MANY ROOMS ARE IN THIS...
IF YOU DON'T WORK, YOU DON'T DESERVE TO EAT, RIGHT?
I SAID YOU COULD STAY HERE BUT I NEVER SAID FOR FREE
WHAT'S WITH ALL THIS FIRST THING IN THE MORNING?

SWEEP
I...I SHOULDN'T BE WASTING MY TIME WITH THIS.
SHOULD I REALLY BE DOING HOUSEWORK?
SWEEP
I'VE ALWAYS DONE IT MYSELF, UNTIL NOW.
YOU'VE GOT NO CHOICE, BEING A FREELOADER HERE.
LOOK, WHEN YOU'RE DONE SWEEPING YOU CAN DUST.
IF WE BOTH WORK, WE'LL BE DONE IN ABOUT AN HOUR.
AND THEN I'LL FIX US BREAKFAST.
SWOOSH
YOU'RE A GO-GETTER, AREN'T YOU.
I see you in a whole new light
I'M FINE WITH THIS.
IT'S MUCH BETTER THAN BEING HOME.
MY MOM DOESN'T UNDERSTAND MY FEAR, AND IS A NERVOUS WRECK OVER IT.
SHE'S A BLOOD RELATIVE, BUT DIDN'T HAVE THE DREAM ABOUT SAKURA.
Huh
Just like me

TOWAKO-OBAACHAN COULDN'T LET THAT GO ON, SO SHE SAID I COULD COME TO THE TEMPLE FOR A WHILE.
NO MATTER WHERE I GO, I'M STILL AFRAID BUT...
...FOR ME THIS PLACE IS MUCH BETTER.
Because I scared him so much
AND SINCE MY MOM CAUGHT SIGHT OF MY FRIEND...
...IT MADE THINGS AWKWARD.
SPEAKING OF WHICH, WHO IS THIS FRIEND OF YOURS?
Nope
Nowa's not a good friend
I'LL SHOW HIM TO YOU NEXT TIME.
HE'S LIKE THE THING INSIDE OF YOU, ARIA-SAN
HEY,♡ MORE IMPORTANTLY.
YEAH? WHAT IS IT?
♡ ..I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK YOU FOR A WHILE BUT... IS IT ALL RIGHT IF I ASK?
GIDDY
GIDDY

SILENCE
IS SAKURA YOUR LOVER, ARIA-SAN?
WAS I WRONG?
AREN'T YOU TRYING SO HARD TO FIND HIM BECAUSE YOU LIKE HIM?
YOU IDIOT. THAT'S NOT HOW IT IS.
DO I REALLY FEEL...
NO WAY.
I'VE NEVER EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT IT.
...FOR SAKURA...
Kyaaah! You're so mean Aria-saaaan!
STOP SAYING BRAZEN STUFF AND WORK! AND DO MY PART TOO!
Now, come on!


I NEVER HAD TIME TO THINK ABOUT IT.
AND THEN SAKURA DISAPPEARED.
SCUFF

ARIA-SAN, WHAT'S THE MA-
WAH!
BONK
ARIA-SA ...!
WHICH WAY, KUGURI !?
OVER THERE!?
!
ZZZP

GRIT
ME?
WHO ARE YOU?
YOU'RE NOT... KAGARA, ARE YOU.
I...
...AM THE BLOOD RELATIVE WHOSE BLOOD IS CLOSEST TO YOUR OWN.

NIGHT OF THE BEASTS

CHAPTER 12

INSIDE MY BODY, KUGURI'S BARING HER TEETH.
THE BLOOD THIRST IN THIS ONE IS SO STRONG IT'S SCARY...
I...
...AM THE BLOOD RELATIVE WHOSE BLOOD IS CLOSEST TO YOUR OWN.
HE'S DANGER.
BUMP
ARE YOU STILL SLEEPING OR SOMETHING?
REACH!

GO HOME.
IF YOU TAKE ONE STEP CLOSER, YOU'LL BE IN A LOT OF PAIN.
STEP
TARoooo

FLASH
WHAT THE...

JUST NOW...
ARIA-SAN?

GET AWAY, TOHRU!
THIS GUY'S ...
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
WHAT? THAT GUY JUST NOW...
COME HERE A SEC, TOHRU.
CHOMP

I SEE.
MMPHGHPH?
MMPH!?
GNAW
GNAW
...WAS HIS DOING.
WHAT HAP-PENED JUST NOW—

BUT I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S TRUE.
THAT'S WHAT HE SAID.
THE BLOOD RELATIVE WHOSE BLOOD IS CLOSEST TO YOUR OWN?

HE WAS AT LEAST TWO OR THREE YEARS OLDER THAN ME.
AND HAD SOME FOUL EYES TO HIM.
EYES PACKED WITH A MOUNTAIN OF HATE.
YOU DON'T KNOW IF IT'S TRUE OR NOT? BUT YOU'VE NEVER SEEN THIS GUY BEFORE, RIGHT?
SO HE MUST'VE BEEN LYI—
I...
...DON'T KNOW MY BLOOD FATHER'S FACE OR NAME.
IF THIS GUY SHOWS UP SAYING THAT, WELL, IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE.
BUT I DON'T CARE EITHER WAY. I'M NOT INTERESTED IN KNOWING.
WHAT I'M MORE CONCERNED ABOUT ...
...IS WHAT HE DID BEFORE.

BY FORCE.
I'LL HAVE TO CATCH HIM AND ASK HIM MYSELF.
SILENCE
ARIA-SAN?
HMPH.
DRAG
DRAG
DRAG
I...I'LL HAVE TO DECLINE!!
HELP ME OUT, TOHRU!
Yahoo! We'll have ursufrogs a mountain hunt!
RATTLE

OOOOH!
IS IT HER?
SAVE US!
PLEASE SAVE US!
WHAT IS..
THIS?
THAT'S THE ONE?
IT IS TRUE, SHE IS HERE.
THE GIRL WHO HOLDS WITHIN HER THE WHITE DEMON.

BAM
WHAT'S GOING ON!?
LOOK THERE.
IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME NOW.
A MEMBER OF THE FAMILY WENT ON A SEARCH TO FIND THE MASTER.
WHY ARE THESE BLOOD RELATIVES HERE!?
YOU CALLED THEM HERE, GRANNY!?
THAT'S NOT GOOD!!
NO MATTER WHERE THEY GO, THEY'LL BE KILLED WHEN THEIR TIME COMES.
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT THEM HAVING COME. WHY SHOULDN'T THEY?
YOU HAVE TO SEND THEM AWAY!
WE DON'T KNOW WHEN KAGARA WILL ATTACK!
GRR

SOOTHE
I KNOW I SAID...
YOU HAVE TO PROTECT YOURSELVES BY YOURSELVES.
I'M SO SCARED!
SAVE ME!
REALLY?
...CAN YOU SAVE US..?
YOUNG WOMAN...

BUT AGAINST AN OPPONENT LIKE HIM...
LISTEN, IT'S DANGEROUS FOR YOU HERE.
...THESE PEOPLE ARE HELPLESS.
IT'S HIM AGAIN.
THAT GUY FROM BEFORE, KUGURI.
ARIA-SAN!
ZOOM

YOU MUST PROTECT HER!
UH...
FOLLOW HER, TOHRU!
A TROUBLE-SOME MAN HAS APPEARED.
THROUGH YOU, I HEARD YOUR CON-VERSATION WITH HER.
WOULD YOU WALK FASTER, MANAMI!
IF WE KEEP DILLY-DALLYING WE'LL BE KILLED BY SAKURA!
THE BASIN UNDER THE WATER-FALL IS DANGER-OUS.
LOOK! LOOK, FATHER!
HU
アアア
SSSH

NOT EVEN HIRED FORTUNE-TELLERS COULD FIND THE ONE PERSON WHO CAN DEFEAT SAKURA.
NOW THAT SHE'S HERE--
WE HAVE TO SEEK HER PROTECTION!
OTHER BLOOD RELATIVES MIGHT THINK THEY CAN MONOPOLIZE THE DEMON-USER.
BUT WE'VE SAVED UP SO MUCH MONEY, WE'LL GET HER UNDIVIDED ATTENTION.
PANT
PANT
COME OOON, ISN'T THAT JUST A RUMOR?
HUEF

...WITH YOU GUYS.
THAT'S ALWAYS HOW IT IS...
WHOOSH
WH... WHAT IS THIS? WHO'RE YOU?
BASH
KYAAAAAAH!

WHAT'RE YOU SO WORRIED ABOUT?
IF IT IS TRUE, THEN YOU GUYS...
...WOULD HAVE BEEN KILLED BY SAKURA A LONG TIME AGO.
WH... WHAT'RE YOU DOING, YOU!
STOMP
OWWW!
IF IT WEREN'T FOR THAT GIRL.
STOP IT.

GRAB

YOU'RE AN EYESORE. GET OUT OF HERE.
...I'VE FORGOTTEN NOW.
THERE WAS SOMETHING I HAD TO ASK YOU, BUT...
YOU GUYS ALL RIGHT?
HURRY UP TO THE TEMPLE AND GET THOSE INJURIES TAKEN CARE OF.
...STAY HERE.
AND YOU..
WHY SHOULD ANYONE PROTECT THOSE LOWLIFES?
THEY CLING TO THEIR OWN TRASHY LIVES...
...AND TRAMPLE DOWN OTHERS WITHOUT BLINKING. THEY'RE THE LOWEST OF HUMANS.
I WANT YOU TO ANSWER ME THIS.
WHERE HAVE I HEARD THOSE WORDS BEFORE?
What's this?

WHY, FOR THESE GUYS' SAKE...
...ARE YOU FIGHTING SAKURA?
WHAT!?
FLING!!!
WH...
HOW CAN HE FLING ME SO EASILY!?

KUGURI!
THOOM

SO, THIS IS THE WHITE DEMON YOU'RE SO PROUD OF?
NOT AGAIN!
!
WHAT IN THE...

ARRRRRR!
DON'T INTERFERE!
SNAP
SNAP

GOOD GIRL. SHE OBEYS WELL.
AH...
YOU...
KUGURI
!?

KUGURI! RETURN!
RETURN !!
KYAAAH!!
HE'S--
--CONTROLLING KUGURI!!
IT'S HIM.

AROOOO
HALT
TRMBL
TRMBL

DON'T GET TOO COCKY.
IF YOU CAN PULL THIS OFF, YOU SHOULD BE READY FOR ANY-THING, RIGHT?
MESSING AROUND LIKE THIS WON'T GET YOU ANY-WHERE!
TRANS: TRANS:
MY DREAM ALWAYS SHOWED THE DOWN-FALL OF THE BLOOD RELATIVES.
YOU'RE INTERFERING WITH THAT.

HE SAID MY BLOOD, SO CLOSE TO YOU...
...CAN BE USED AS A WEAPON.
TO DEAL WITH YOU, HE CALLED ME.
YOUR POWER... DON'T I WIELD IT QUITE THOROUGHLY?
BUT I CAME TO SEE FOR MYSELF.
I FINALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT IT WAS HE MEANT.
HE?

KAGARA!!
SOMEBODY'S GOTTA SAVE HER..
IF IT KEEPS UP, ARIA-SAN WILL...!
KUGURI'S ACTING SO STRANGE...
M... ME?

YOU...
...MET HIM, DID YOU?
SAKURA ALONE'S NOT ENOUGH, IS THAT IT?
HE HAD TO HUNT DOWN THIS GUY, TOO...
....ND STICK HIM IN MY FACE!
THAT FIEND! HOW FAR WILL HE GO TO GET ME!?
TELL ME.
WHERE IS HE!?

BAM

.....
HE SAID HE WANTED TO KILL YOU WITH HIS OWN HANDS.
BAM
BAM

ZIZZIP
.....!
GRAB
!?
TRMB!
MY BODY ...
I CAN'T MOVE.
TRMB!
AAH... ARIA-SAN!!

NOW'S YOUR CHANCE !!

GUH ...
CRUMBLE
THUD
YOU ASKED ME.
WHY I'M FIGHTING HIM.

IT'S BECAUSE HE REALLY ...
...PISSES ME OFF!
RUBBLE
RUBBLE

LEAP!!!
GRIP
WHERE..
WHERE IS HE!?
NOW TELL ME!

SSSSHHHH

CLENCH
ARIA-SAN...
MY FRIEND JUST TOLD ME--
ARIA-SAN, THAT GUY IS YOUR REAL BRO--
TOHRU.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME.
WE'LL MEET AGAIN.
SOON.

NIGHT OF THE BEASTS
CHAPTER 13

HIS NAME IS AKIYA NAGATA.
AGE 19.
HE INHERITED THE BLOOD OF THE DESCENDENTS FROM HIS FATHER.
WITH THAT FATHER AND A DIFFERENT MOTHER...
...HE IS ARIA-SAN'S BROTHER.

HIS POWER IS FROM THE DEMON THAT RESIDES WITHIN HIM.
WHEN HE PERMITS IT TO OCCUPY ANOTHER...
...HE CAN SEE INTO THE HEART OF THAT PERSON.
LAST NIGHT, HE WAS CONSUMED BY DARKNESS WHILE IN TOWN.
HE ENCOUNTERED KAGARA.
THOUGH KAGARA IS USING HIM BECAUSE HE WISHES TO KILL ARIA-SAN...
...THIS BOY DID NOT HESITATE TO COOPERATE.

HE HATES THE BLOOD RELATIVES.
PARENT-CHILD AND SIBLING CONNECTIONS.
PEOPLE OF CLOSE BLOOD-TIES HAVE A STRONG INFLUENCE ON EACH OTHER.
FOR US DESCENDENTS THIS WORKS EVEN STRONGER.
OUR BLOOD CONNECTION ALLOWS ME TO SHARE IN WHAT TOHRU SEES AND HEARS.
I WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO DO THIS WITH OTHERS.
I'M SORRY BUT ...
...I DON'T KNOW WHY
HE... THOUGHT THIS THROUGH.
KAGARA USED HIM BECAUSE OF IT.

HE'S A CUNNING MAN.
IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT...
HE TARGETED ANY BEING WHO COULD THREATEN HIM.
STARTING WITH SAKURA'S BLOOD.
SAKURA'S FAMILY...
HIS COUSIN, SHIRO...
TRMBL
TRMBL

SOON, THEY'LL COME HERE.
SO KICK OUT THOSE BLOOD RELATIVES RIGHT NOW.
IF YOU DON'T GET RID OF THEM, I'LL GO.
I...I'M SORRY!

EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE STRONGER WHEN YOU GET LIKE THAT.
YOU'RE PANICKING WAY TOO MUCH.
TRMBL
I'M... I'M... SORRY.
Still I—
YOU DIDN'T WANT TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR BROTHER, RIGHT?
TRMBL
THAT'S NOT IT.
THE SUN IS SETTING NOW
MORNING WILL BE BEST, EH?
I'LL MAKE THE BLOOD RELATIVES LEAVE.
BECAUSE I WILL NOT LET YOU GO.

SLAP
ACTING LIKE SUCH A JERK.
WHAT A DISGRACE I AM.
CAW
CAW
IT'S A BAD HABIT.
WHEN I GET THAT MAD, I JUST CAN'T STOP.
STOP IT. NOT YOU, TOO.
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, OKAY?
I'M NOT MAD AT YOU.
WHINE
HIS NAME IS AKIYA NAGATA.
HE HATES THE BLOOD RELATIVES.

I'VE BEEN GETTING SO MAD, LATELY.
I WASN'T LIKE THIS BEFORE.
I ONLY WANTED TO SAVE SAKURA.
NO MATTER HOW MAD OR CONFUSED I WAS...
WHEN I WAS WITH SAKURA, I WAS SO...
...SAKURA WOULD JUST SMILE FOR ME.
WHY ...
...DID IT HAVE TO COME TO THIS?
...I DON'T EVER WANT TO MEET HIM.
IF THAT'S WHAT HE'S LIKE...
SAKURA ...

I MISS YOU.
SAKURA.
PERK
ZZZ
GLARE

FLASH!!

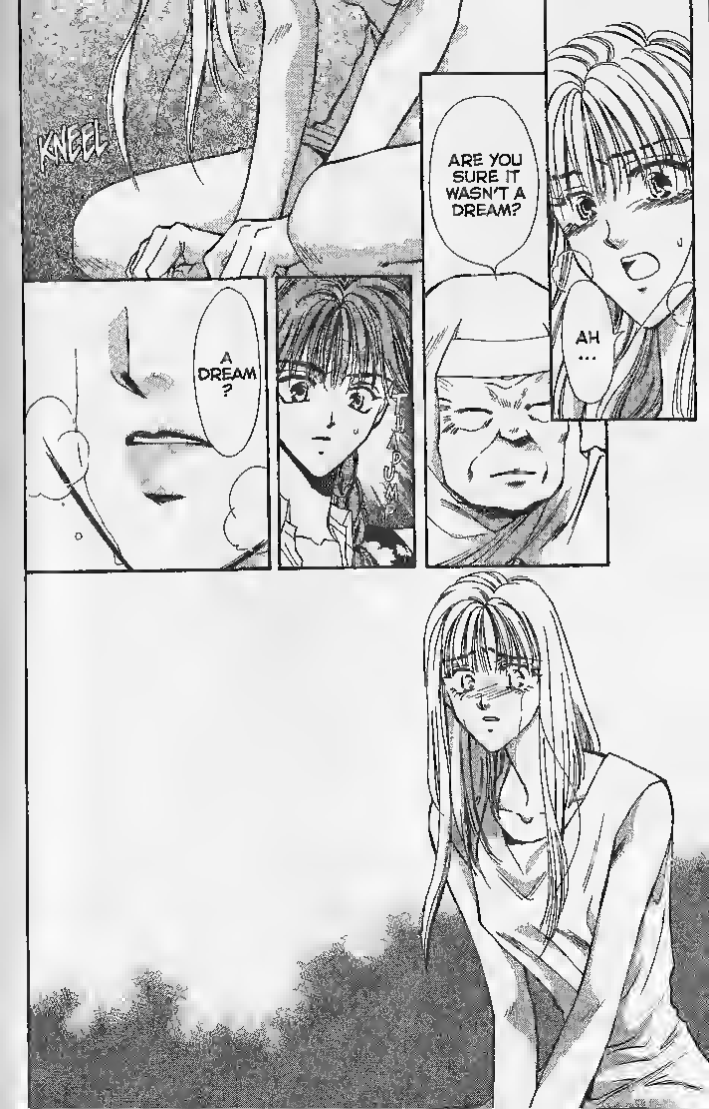
NN...
WHAT IS IT, KUGU-

ARIA...
YOU'RE SAFE.
THANK GOOD-NESS.

...KURA?
SA...
POOF

RIPPLE
CAW
CAW
SPLASH

SAKURA!
SAKURA?
BAM
SAKURA! WHERE ARE YOU!?
WHAT'S GOING ON!?
SAKURA WAS HERE!
OUT OF MY WAY! HE MUST BE HERE, SOMEWHERE!
QUIET DOWN!
THE BLOOD RELATIVES ARE STILL INSIDE.
ARE YOU TRYING TO START A PANIC!?


KNEEL
ARE YOU SURE IT WASN'T A DREAM?
AH...
A DREAM?

HUH.
JUST A DREAM, EH?
PLEASE GET SOME REST
YOU'RE JUST TIRED.
I'M FINE. I'M NOT TIRED.
IT'S OKAY IF YOU SLEEP, ARIA-SAN.
IF SAKURA COMES BACK...
...I'LL WAKE YOU UP.

SHE'S EXHAUST-ED.
EVEN TOUGH GIRLS LIKE HER GET TIRED.
HUH?
TOUGH? THAT'S HOW YOU SEE HER?
THAT GIRL DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO SLOW DOWN.
TO ME, SHE LOOKS FRAGILE. LIKE SHE COULD SHATTER ANY MO-MENT.

SHE NEEDS SOMEONE TO SLOW HER PACE FOR HER.
SOME-ONE LIKE TOHRU...
SOME-ONE LIKE SAKURA...
ARE THE BLOOD RELATIVES PANICK-ING?
YES, MA'AM.
BUT, AS RUMOR OF THE LADY SPREADS ...
...THEY KEEP COMING FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.
A MERE RUMOR REALLY SPREADS SO FAST?
.....

WHILE I WAS ASLEEP.
WHAT DID YOU DO?

BASH
BASH
BASH
BASH
ANSWER, HUMAN!!
SHWA
I SENSED MOVEMENT.
BUT THIS HUMAN SHOULD NOT BE ABLE TO MOVE ON HIS OWN.
DID I IMAGINE IT?
BUT ...
GRIT
...WHY WON'T HE VANISH?

WHY WON'T THIS ONE SOUL VANISH FROM WITHIN ME?

I WILL SETTLE IT TONIGHT.
BOTH YOU AND KUGURI ...
...AND HER MASTER.
RUSTLE
WHOOSH
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

SHOOP

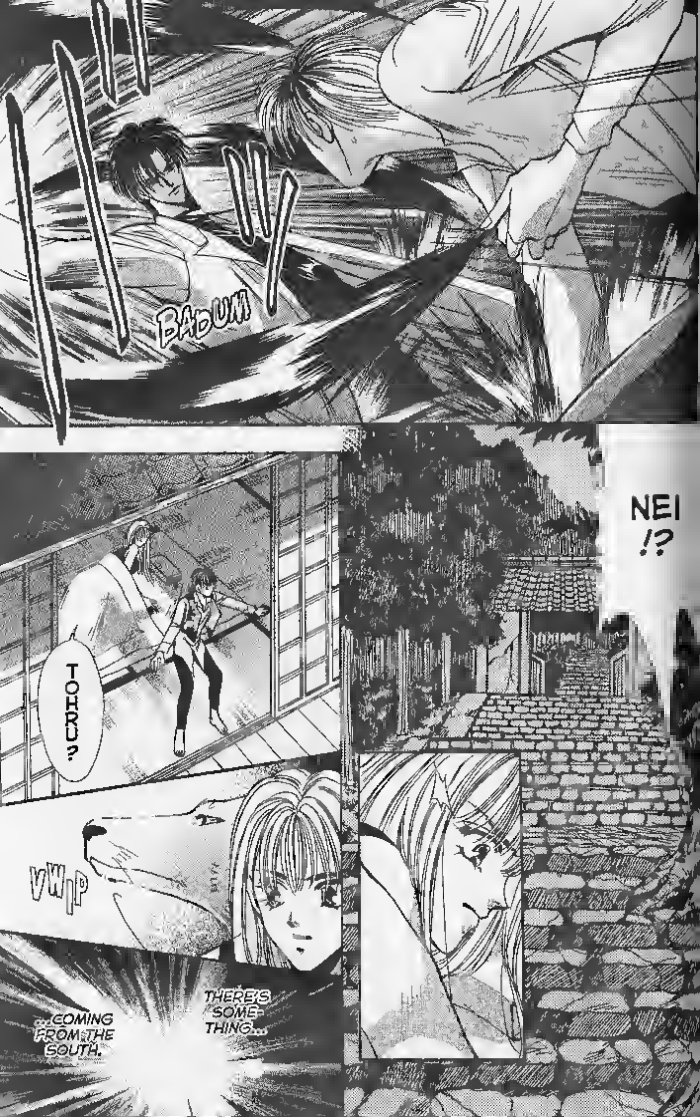
THE WHITE DEMON'S POWER HAS NO EFFECT ON ME.
WHEN I TOUCHED THAT YOUNG WOMAN...
...I COULD EVEN CONTROL IT.

BUT WHY DO YOU HELP ME SO WILLINGLY?
AND SO WILL YOU.
MIKAGE'S LINEAGE WILL BE SLAUGHTERED.
IF YOU HAD BEEN USELESS, I WOULD HAVE DEVOURED YOU.
YOUR LIFESPAN JUST GOT A LITTLE LONGER.
TMP
KILL US ALL.
THAT'S ALL RIGHT.

SLITHER
I DON'T BELIEVE YOU.
WOOOO
FIZZ

BAM
GWAAAAAH!
GLITTER
I DON'T TRUST HUMANS.
GAAAH!!
UGUH...!
DEFY ME, AND THAT SNAKE WILL DEVOUR YOU FROM THE INSIDE OUT!

HUMANS ONLY BETRAY.
UGUH ...
GUH ...
FAZE
TWITCH
YOU BROUGHT SOMETHING WITH YOU.
DIDN'T YOU?


BAbUM
NEI
!?
TOHRU?
vwp
...COMING FROM THE SOUTH.
THERE'S SOME-THING...

NE!?
WHAT'S THE-
SSSHHHUUUU
HE SAYS KAGARA'S CLOSE !!
CLASP
ARIA-SAN!
FLAP
WHAT DO WE DO!? THEY'RE CLOSE BY!
HE WAS IN AKIYA NAGATA'S BODY!

N...NO, ARIA-SAN!
YOUR BROTHER'S THERE, TOO!!
SOUTH, EH?
THEY'LL KILL YOU!!
TOWAKO-SAN, STOP HER!
FLUTTER!!
ARIA ...

COME BACK, NO MATTER WHAT.
!
TOWAKO-SAN, WHY DIDN'T YOU...!?
WHIP
ARIA-SAN!!
THAT CHILD LEFT TO SAVE THE BLOOD RELATIVES.
BEFORE KAGARA COMES FOR THEM.

HOW COULD I HAVE STOPPED HER?
WITH THOSE EYES...
NO MATTER HOW FRAGILE THAT GIRL LOOKED TO ME...
...SHE MIGHT REALLY BE THAT TOUGH.
KUGURI!
DASH

WHAT AM I DOING? I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW TO HEAR YOUR ANSWERS!
CAN YOU BRING DOWN MY STUPID BIG BROTHER?
IS THERE A WAY TO GET SAKURA BACK?
CLENCH
I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO USE FORCE.
THAT IS MY STRONG POINT.

THOOM
WE MAY HAVE LOST ONE SMALL PREY...
...BUT WE'VE FOUND A BIGGER ONE!
THERE !!
FLASH
STAND, HUMAN.
I'M GOING TO MAKE YOU WORK FOR ME.

LONG TIME NO SEE, SAKURA.
I'M GOING TO SAVE YOU NOW.

NIGHT OF THE BEASTS

While the blood relatives seek refuge at Towako-san's temple, the raging beast within Sakura appears in horrifying form. Aria's newfound determination gives them hope, but without Sakura by her side, will she have strength enough to save the thousands whose lives depend on her... and face the truth behind the curse?

$10.99 USA

$10.99
ISBN 978-1-933617-25-1
51099>

go!comi

visit our website at www.gocomi.com

RATED OT
OLDER TEEN
16+

NIGHT OF THE BEASTS

CHAPTER 14

GET OUT OF SAKURA, NOW!
YOU MON-STER!
YOU CAME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE TO DIE, DID YOU?

BAM
BAM
BAM
RUSH
!
JUST FROM SMACKING INTO HIM, MY WHOLE BODY'S JARRED.
WHAT RIDICULOUS FORCE! YOU LITTLE ...
CRMBL
CRMBL
OOF!

YOU CAUGHT ME BY SURPRISE, BEFORE—
--BUT YOU GOT TOO COCKY!
YOU CAN'T CONTROL HER WITH THAT ATTITUDE.
BASH
BASH

WHUMP
GRIP

HUFF
HUFF
ZOOM
THUD

LICK
LICK
OUCH, THAT HURT! HE HIT ME SO HARD I THOUGHT I'D SPLIT MY HEAD OPEN!
THAT...
...BAST-ARD.
FORGIVE ME FOR GETTING VIOLENT ON YOU... SAKURA.

WHOOSH

THIS IS WASTING MY TIME.
KUGURI AND MIKAGE ONCE BROUGHT ME DOWN.
SO, WITH KUGURI'S POWER ALONE...
KUGURI !!

GO!!
HALT
I'M DOING THIS!!
GUH...

TCH!
AHH
PANT

GIVE ME SAKURA.

WITH SO LITTLE SKILL...
...YOU CAN STILL...
I SAID GET LOST!
IF YOU DON'T, I'LL...
AH...
DON'T PUSH YOUR LUCK.

.....!
SLAM
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

IS IT OVER?
DROP
REACH
WOOOSH
!

AROOOO
GRAB
VANISH.
BAM
AROHOOH!

THAT SHOULD DO IT.
FWIP
DON'T YOU WANT THIS BODY BACK?
WHAT'S THE MATTER? THAT IT?
YANK
AH!
PANT
PANT

...SO COMPLETELY...
EVEN THOUGH I CHOSE TO USE FORCE...
WHY DOES MY HEART...
THADUMP
THADUMP
...FREEZE...
...AT THE SIGHT OF SAKURA'S BLOOD?

IT'S NO USE. THIS BODY IS MINE NOW.
THE SOUL OF ITS MASTER WHICH IS BARELY LEFT...
...WILL BE CRUSHED BY MY POWER, AND VANISH.
AND TONIGHT?
HEH HEH HEH
THE FLESH AND BLOOD OF THOSE HUMANS WILL FEED MY POWER.
I TOLD THE BLOOD RELATIVES WHERE TO FIND YOU.
THEY ARE ALL HIDING TOGETHER, I'D IMAGINE. IN THAT TEMPLE.

JUST BECAUSE THEY'RE HER BLOOD, THESE PEOPLE WHO HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING...!
IF YOU HATED HER SO MUCH, THEN JUST LEAVE IT AT MIKAGE!
CRASH
AH!
IT IS YOU PEOPLE WHO HATE MIKAGE.

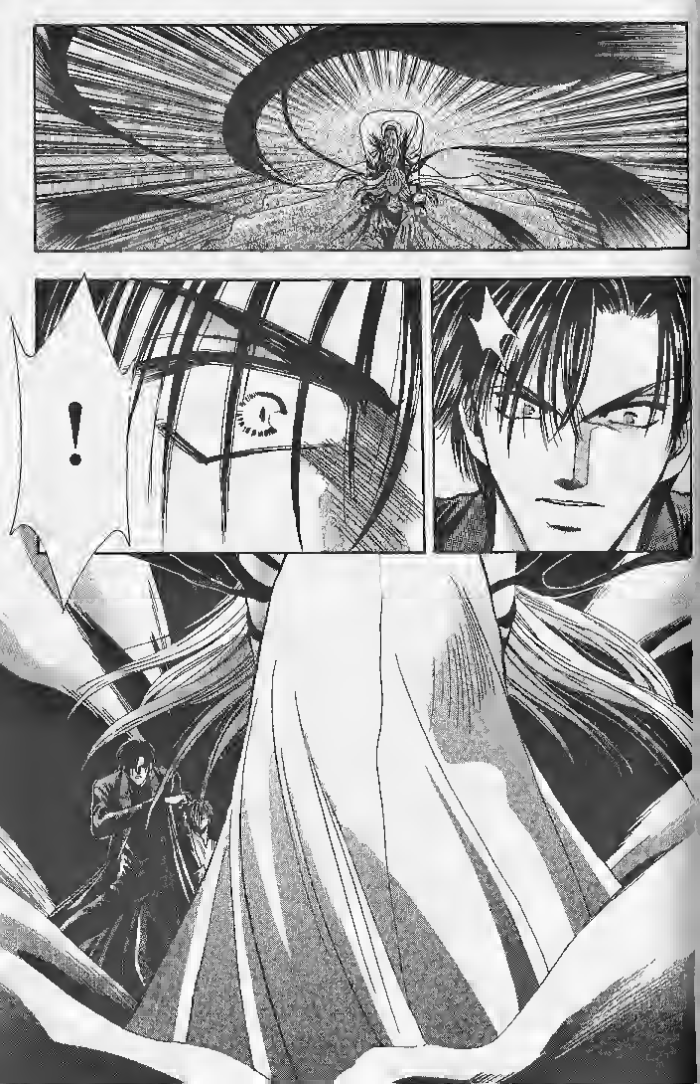
BECAUSE IT WAS MIKAGE WHO MADE ME LIKE THIS.
HEH HEH...
KUH ...
IF I COULD JUST GET FREE OF HIM!
THEN THIS GUY WOULD...
I WILL NOT LEAVE ONE ALIVE.
NOT ONE HUMAN WHO CARRIES THIS BLOOD.
SNAP

LET ME GO!!
.....
IF YOU'RE GOING TO KILL HER, DO IT NOW.
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO...
WAFT
STOP IT!!
WITH SAKURA'S ...
...FACE.
S...

VANISH, KUGURI.
YOU USELESS DEMON!
SPURT
AND TAKE YOUR MASTER WITH YOU!

FWOO
!?
WHAT ...
...THE?

FLASH!
BAM
BAM
BAM
IS THAT YOU, KUGURI !?

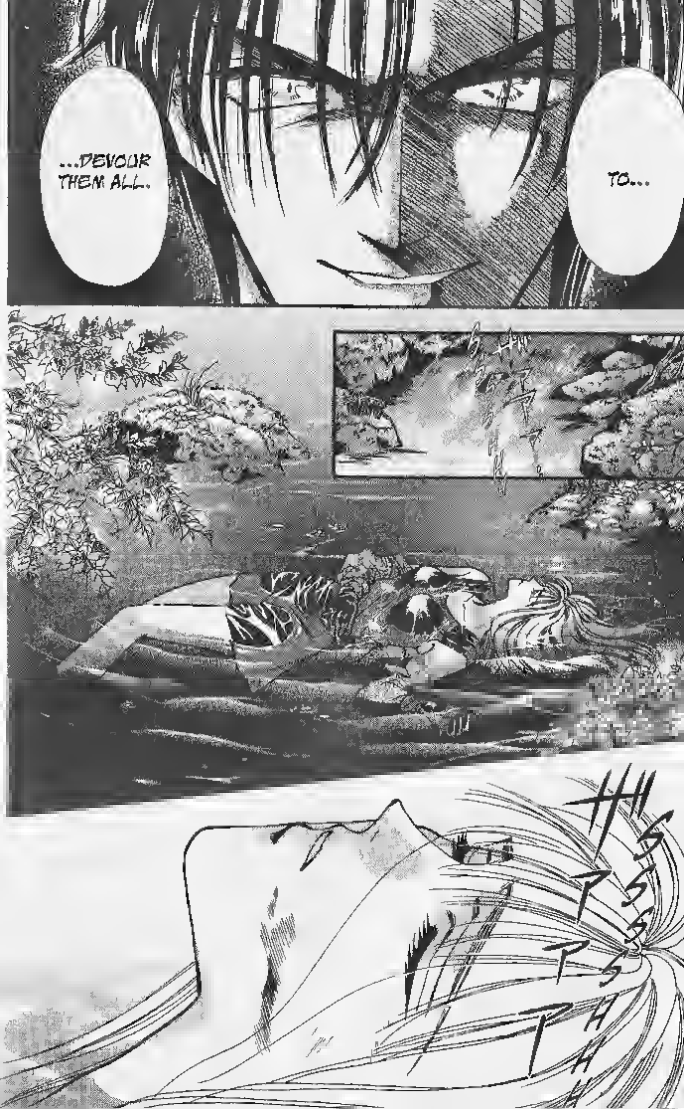

!

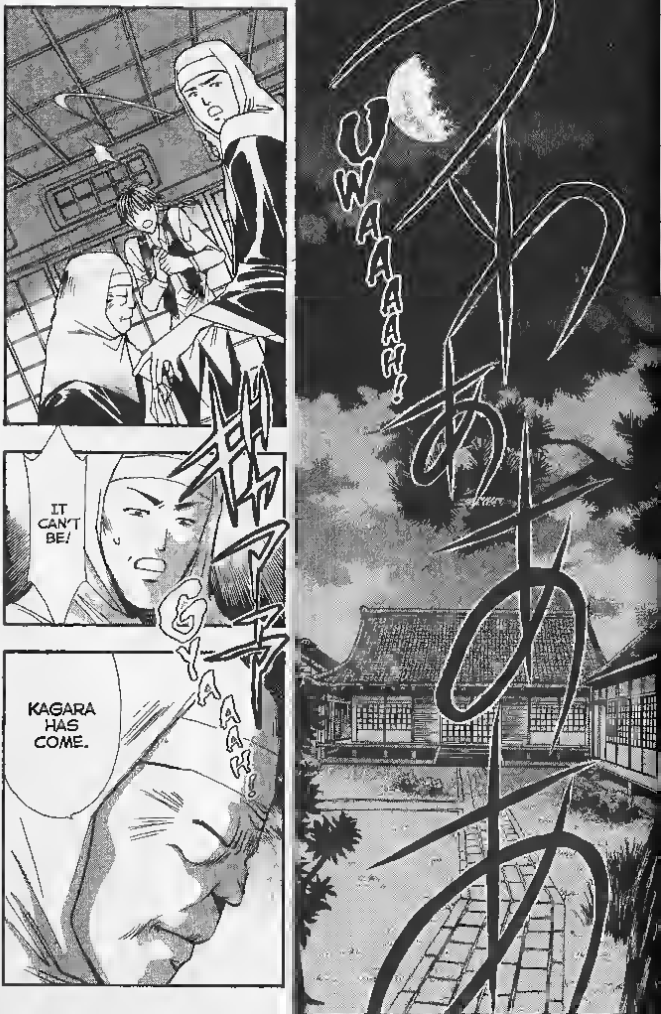
HE SHOULD NOT BE ABLE TO MOVE.
THERE ARE TWO SAKURAS?
GRIP

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AWAKE !?
YOU LITTLE ...!!
SAKURA...

VANISH
!!
SHIGH
SHIGH
FLASH

WOOOO
PULLING THAT DECEITFUL MOVE ON ME!
FINE. SO BE IT.
ONCE I CRUSH THIS SOUL, I'LL HAVE WHAT I NEED.
PHEW
...STILL INSIDE OF ME...
HE'S...


...DEVOUR THEM ALL..
TO...
HSSS


UWAAAAAH!
KYAAAH!
IT CAN'T BE!
KAGARA HAS COME.
GYAAAH!

AH ...
AH ...!
TOHRU.
DO YOU THINK THE YOUNG WOMAN HAS BEEN KILLED?
TREMBL
UWAAAH!
TREMBL
THAT SHE COULD NOT GET SAKURA BACK...
...AND DID NOTHING TO SAVE HERSELF?
.....
I DON'T BE-LIEVE THAT.
NOR DO I.
BOOM

THEN WE MUST BELIEVE.
THAT SHE WILL COME BACK.
RISE
S-SAVE US!
THAT GIRL!
WHERE IS THE WHITE DEMON!?
SHE WILL RETURN SOON.
UNTIL THEN, WE MUST FIGHT HIM OURSELVES.

THE BLACK DEMON.
KAGARA.

BONUS TIME
Chika Shiomi
c/o Go! Media Entertainment
5737 Kanan Rd #581
Agoura Hills, CA 91301
Here's the address
Replies will take a long time but they'll be made, I promise
I'D LOVE TO HEAR YOUR IMPRESSIONS OF THE THIRD VOLUME.
♡
AAW, YOU BROUGHT ME THE NEWS-PAPER?
Aren't you a clever one!
AND HERE IS SHIOMI'S DREAM FUTURE:
YAHOO! I'M GONNA RAISE YOU TO BE A CLEVER ONE, ALL RIGHT!
WHILE WRITING THIS VOLUME, I BOUGHT A DOG.
HE'S A MALE GOLDEN RETRIEVER.
MOM
DAD
I'm moving to Hawaii
CLEAN IT UP, WOULD YOU?
HE SNUCK INTO THE KITCHEN AND ATE 18 OF MY EGGS.
Can't take any more.
MOM
OWAH!!
HE'S THROWING UP!?
COULD IT BE HE'S JUST AN OVER-ENERGETIC, STUPID ...!?
B...MARF
AAAH! MY POTTED ORCHID!!
BUT...
He's been swallowing cigarettes whole!!
UGYAAH!
FAREWELL, DREAMS.
GYAAAH! MY CLEAN LAUNDRY!!
AND...
And my sweater, wear, he lost!

SAKURA'S LIFE HANGS BY A THREAD...

IN THE NEXT VOLUME OF *NIGHT OF THE BEASTS*